



## Meeting Minutes

### Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement

May 4, 2023

#### Members

Commissioner Doug Snyder, Chair  
Commissioner Patrick White, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Bettie Rose Horne  
Commissioner Ben Satcher  
Commissioner Cleveland Sellars  
Commissioner Dino Teppara

#### Commission Staff Present

Dr. Rusty Monhollon  
Ms. Bunnie Ward  
Mr. Mark Swart  
Ms. Shardai Figgures  
Ms. Jazmine Guerrero  
Mr. Bryce Wilson

Dr. Mariam Dittmann  
Ms. Yarley Steedly  
Mr. Christopher Glenn  
Dr. Jessica Berry  
Dr. Kristin Brooks

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk  
Ms. Leslie Williams  
Dr. Corey Gheesling  
Ms. Laura Belcher  
Dr. Maggie May

#### Guests

Trena Houpp, USC Columbia  
Kim Purdy, USC Upstate  
John Catalano, USC Palmetto College  
Cam Reagin, USC Aiken  
Beth Bell, Clemson  
Susan Elkins, USC Palmetto College

All attended either in-person or via Zoom.

#### **1. Welcome and Call to Order**

Dr. Kristin Brooks opened the Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement meeting. Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order at 9:47 a.m., a quorum was present.

#### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Snyder asked for a motion to change the order of the agenda. Motion was seconded, and approved.

#### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Chairman Snyder asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded, and minutes were approved.

#### 4. Chair's Report

Chairman Snyder provided opening remarks and discussed how this Committee will move forward with strategic initiatives and engagement. Chairman Snyder noted that the Committee does not have any action items other than approving the minutes.

#### 5. Director's Report

Ms. Bunnie Ward provided a presentation with updates on the following:

- **Educator Preparation Report Card:** CHE has submitted the data request to the SC Department of Education and drafted the MOU/Addendum to be signed by the CHE, EOC, and SC Department of Education. The OSIE has been tasked with the report card and tasks have been accomplished with existing staff resources. If the General Assembly allocates additional resources, the CHE will be able to hire additional staff.
- **Nursing:** CHE is partnering with the SC Student Loan Corporation to implement this initiative and bring the final contract for approval in June and have this initiative up and running by Fall 2023.

Dr. Kristin Brooks provided a presentation on the transfer initiative, information related to reverse transfer, as well as the Transfer in Excellence Convening that was held in March.

Ms. Ward provided a legislative update on provisos and H4060 related to transfer. The committee went on to discuss next steps for the transfer initiative.

#### 6. Legislative Update

Ms. Yarley Steedly provided updates on the following:

- **S 138 (Life Scholarship Eligibility, Dual Enrollment)** Passed Senate unanimously, currently in House Education
  - Grade in dual enrollment shall not affect LIFE Scholarship retention in second year.
- **H 3295 (Competency Based Education)** Passed House unanimously, currently in Senate Education
  - Requires CHE and SCTC to establish policies providing fair and equitable access to IHEs as well scholarships and financial aid for graduates of schools implementing innovative model and nontraditional diplomas.
- **H 3728 (Transparency & Integrity in Education)** Currently on Senate Floor
  - Establishes prohibited content in K-12. Ensures fact-based history. Protects discussion of current events. Parents are informed of classroom curriculum.
- **H 3857 (Doctoral/Professional Universities)** Senate Floor
  - Allows new classification for four-year universities to offer up to five doctoral/professional degree programs.
- **H 4060 (Education & Workforce Readiness)** Passed House, currently in Senate Education
  - FAFSA completion, Ed Prep Report Card to SCDE, uniform dual enrollment articulation, transfer
- **H 4289 (IHE may not promise employment or benefits based on DEI or Ideology)** House Education
- **H 4290 (Report DEI programs, staffing, funding)** House Education
- **H 4300 (FY 23/24 Appropriations Bill)** House Floor, Senate Amendments \*\* 5/3/23\*\*
- **H 4301 (FY 23/24 Capital Reserve Bill)** House Floor, Senate Amendments \*\*5/3/23\*\*

Ms. Steedly also provided an update on the Senate Budget. More information was asked regarding Media Partnerships but Ms. Steedly does not have additional information at this time.

## **7. External CHE Studies**

Ms. Laura Belcher provided updates regarding the House Legislative Oversight Committee (HLOC) study, Senate Legislative Oversight Committee (SLOC) study, and the Inspector General inquiry regarding a complaint that was filed.

## **8. Communications and Engagement Update**

Mr. Mark Swart provided a presentation of communications and engagements that took place in March-May, and various upcoming engagements.

## **9. Other Business**

Chairman Snyder asked if there was any other business to discuss. Ms. Steedly commented on the scholarship funding on the budget information that was presented.

## **10. Adjournment**

Chairman Snyder asked if there was any other business before the Committee. Being none, Chairman Snyder adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.